

ATTACHMENT #4
UAF STAFF COUNCIL #202
November 18, 2009
SUBMITTED BY BRAD HAVEL

TO: UAF Staff Council
From: Brad Havel
Date: November 9, 2009
RE: Technology Advisory Board (TAB) report

The Technology Advisory Board met on November 7, 2009 for the award of the Fall 2009 TAB grants. This semester there were 39 proposals (~50% more than prior semesters) totaling \$609,789 in funds being requested.

TAB awarded approximately \$137,596 in 18 grants to a number of projects, including a conversion of a snowmobile to an ethanol design by a student group, collaborative robotics design, increased capability and parts for a previously funded ground penetrating radar, and additional technology based items available for checkout by students, faculty, and staff through the library. Many of the proposals were well thought out and there was a lot of discussion on how to fund as many as possible.

One issue that TAB has been trying to deal with has been smart classroom upgrades and installations. In late 1990's and early 2000's these were well within the purview of TAB to fund and allow instructors to explore how useful they could be to teaching. In the late 2000's however these have come to be expected as a regular staple and without clear direction from the University that these are now considered a core component for instruction.

Additionally, with each department and unit trying to design different smart classrooms for their needs TAB was reluctant to support funding these this semester when there was a possibility of a decision to standardize the equipment across campus and consider these a basic tool. (TAB was hoping to have some direction and guidance on this by the time we met; however that unfortunately didn't happen.)